

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 10 and 11 are amended as set forth hereinafter.

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A closed level control system for a vehicle having a vehicle body, vehicle axles and pressurized medium chambers with which the vehicle body is suspended relative to corresponding ones of said vehicle axles, the closed level control system comprising:

pressurized medium supply vessel means having first and second pressurized medium spaces for holding a medium under pressure as a pressurized medium;

said first and second pressurized medium spaces having no direct connection therebetween;

a compressor for transferring said pressurized medium between said pressurized medium supply vessel means and said pressure pressurized medium chambers;

said compressor having an input and an output;

first and second controllable directional valves and each one of said valves having at least two switching states; and,

said first controllable directional valve being switchable to connect either said first pressure pressurized medium space or,

alternatively, said second pressure pressurized medium space to  
20 either said compressor input or, alternatively, to said compressor output so that pressurized medium from said pressurized medium chambers can be either transferred into said first pressurized medium space or, alternatively, into said second pressurized medium space or pressurized medium can be transferred from either  
25 said first pressurized medium space or, alternatively, from said second pressurized medium space can be transferred to said pressurized medium chambers.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~The closed level control system of claim 1,~~

5 A closed level control system for a vehicle having a vehicle body, vehicle axles and pressurized medium chambers with which the vehicle body is suspended relative to corresponding ones of said vehicle axles, the closed level control system comprising:

pressurized medium supply vessel means having first and second pressurized medium spaces for holding a medium under pressure as a pressurized medium;

10 said first and second pressurized medium spaces having no direct connection therebetween;

a compressor for transferring said pressurized medium between said pressurized medium supply vessel means and said pressurized medium chambers;

15 said compressor having an input and an output;

first and second controllable directional valves and each one of said valves having at least two switching states; and,

said first controllable directional valve being switchable

20       to connect either said first pressurized medium space or said  
      second pressurized medium space to said compressor input or to  
      said compressor output so that pressurized medium from said  
      pressurized medium chambers can be transferred into said first  
      pressurized medium space or into said second pressurized medium  
      space or pressurized medium from said first pressurized medium  
25       space or from said second pressurized medium space can be  
      transferred to said pressurized medium chambers,

      wherein said pressurized medium is pressurized air and said  
      system further comprising:

30       a first pressurized air line connecting said first  
      controllable directional valve to said input of said compressor;  
      a second pressurized air line connecting said output of said  
      compressor to said second controllable directional valve;  
      a third pressurized air line connecting said input of said  
      compressor to said second controllable directional valve;  
35       a fourth pressurized air line connecting said output of said  
      compressor to said first controllable directional valve;  
      said pressurized medium chambers being connected to said  
      second controllable directional valve;  
      said first pressurized air line being switched through by  
40       said first controllable directional valve in a first switching  
      state and said second pressurized air line being switched through  
      by said second controllable directional valve in a first switching  
      state and said fourth pressurized air line being blocked by said  
      first controllable directional valve in said first switching state  
45       and said third pressurized air line being blocked by said second  
      controllable directional valve in said first switching state when

pressurized air is transferred from one of said first and second pressurized medium spaces into one of said pressurized medium chambers;

50       said third pressurized medium air line being switched through by said second controllable directional valve in a second switch state and said first pressurized air line being switched through by said first controllable directional valve in a second switching state and said first pressurized air line being blocked by said first controllable directional valve and said second pressurized air line being blocked by said second controllable directional valve in a second switching state wherein pressurized air is transferred from one of said pressurized medium chambers into one of said first and second pressurized medium spaces;

60       a third controllable directional valve interposed between said first controllable directional valve and said pressurized medium spaces and said third controllable directional valve likewise having at least two switching states;

65       said third controllable directional valve being switched into a first switching state to provide a connection from said first controllable direction valve to said first pressurized medium space and to block a connection to said second pressurized medium space; and,

70       said third controllable directional valve being switched into a second switching state to provide a connection from said first controllable directional valve to said second pressurized medium space and to block a connection to said first pressurized medium space.

3. (Original) The closed level control system of claim 2, wherein said first pressurized air line and said third pressurized air line conjointly define a common connecting point; and, wherein said closed level control system further comprises:

5 a first check valve mounted in said first pressurized air line between said common connecting point and said first controllable directional valve and said first check valve being disposed so as to be open toward said input of said compressor; and,

10 a second check valve mounted in said third pressurized air line between said common connecting point and said second controllable directional valve and said second check valve being open toward said input of said compressor.

4. (Original) The closed level control system of claim 1, wherein said first and second pressurized medium spaces are separate first and second pressurized medium supply vessels.

5. (Original) The closed level control system of claim 1, wherein said first and second pressurized medium spaces have different pressure levels.

6. (Currently Amended) The closed level control system of claim 1, wherein the pressure in at least one of said first and second pressurized medium spaces is greater than the maximum actual compression end pressure of said compressor.

7. (Currently Amended) The closed level control system of

claim 1, further comprising an additional air line connected into said a pressurized air line of said system to facilitate control of an external apparatus utilizing the pressure in at least one of 5 said first and second pressurized medium spaces; and, the residual pressure in the other one of said pressurized medium spaces being available to execute a level change of said level control system directly after the an external control operations.

8. (Original) The closed level control system of claim 7, wherein said external apparatus is a tire inflating device.

9. (Original) The closed level control system of claim 2, further comprising:

an air dryer mounted in said fourth pressurized air line;

an intake valve switchable between a base position wherein 5 no throughflow is permitted and a switched position wherein throughflow is permitted;

an intake line ending at said intake valve and connecting said input of said compressor to the atmosphere when said intake valve is in said switched position;

a discharge valve switchable between a base position wherein no throughflow is permitted and a switched position wherein throughflow is permitted;

a discharge line branching off from said fourth pressurized air line at a branch point between said output of said compressor 15 and said air dryer and ending at said discharge valve; and,

said pressurized medium supply vessel means being connectable to the atmosphere via said air dryer and said

discharge line when said discharge valve is in said switched position.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling the level of a vehicle with a closed level control system, the vehicle having a vehicle body, vehicle axles and pressurized medium chambers with which the vehicle body is suspended relative to corresponding ones 5 of said vehicle axles, the closed level control system including: pressurized medium supply vessel means having first and second pressurized medium spaces for holding a medium under pressure as a pressurized medium; said first and second pressurized medium spaces having no direct connection therebetween; a compressor for 10 transferring said pressurized medium between said pressurized medium supply vessel means and said pressure pressurized medium chambers; said compressor having an input and an output; first and second controllable directional valves and each one of said valves having at least two switching states; and, said first controllable 15 directional valve being switchable to connect either said first pressure pressurized medium space or, alternatively, said second pressure pressurized medium space to either said compressor input or, alternatively, to said compressor output so that pressurized medium from said pressurized medium chambers can be either 20 transferred into said first pressurized medium space or, alternatively, into said second pressurized medium space or pressurized medium can be transferred either from said first pressurized medium space or, alternatively, from said second pressurized medium space can be transferred to said pressurized 25 medium chambers; the method comprising the step of:

utilizing said compressor to fill said first and second  
pressurized medium spaces by transferring pressurized medium from  
said pressurized medium chambers into said pressurized medium  
spaces with said pressurized medium spaces having a pressure  
30 greater than the actual compression end pressure of said  
compressor.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, comprising the  
further steps of:

providing an air dryer in ~~said fourth pressurized~~ an air  
line connecting said output of said compressor to said first  
5 controllable directional valve;

transferring pressurized medium from said air dryer  
sequentially into the first pressurized medium space or into the  
second pressurized medium space with the pressurized medium space  
being at a pressure higher than the actual compression end  
10 pressure of said compressor allowing for a sequential transfer of  
pressurized medium; and,

utilizing said compressor to draw pressurized medium from  
the second or the first pressurized medium space, which is not to  
be filled, and to transfer the pressurized medium into said air  
15 dryer when either the first or, alternatively, the second  
pressurized medium space is not connected to said air dryer or no  
pressurized medium from said air dryer is transferred into the  
first or the second pressurized medium space.